

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:  
Bates et al.

Serial No.: 09/887,621

Confirmation No.: 7429

Filed: June 22, 2001

For: ENCOURAGING HOUSE CARD USE  
THROUGH PRICE GUARANTEES

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Group Art Unit: 3622

Examiner: Michael Bekerman

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to fax number 571-273-8300 to the attention of Examiner Michael Bekerman, or electronically transmitted, on the date shown below:

August 3, 2006 \_\_\_\_\_ /Joseph Jong/  
Date Joseph Jong

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MAY 3, 2006**

In response to the Office Action dated May 3, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on August 3, 2006, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. While no fees are believed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 09-0465/ROC920010071US1 for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper. Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.